

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle upholstery member having an air bag door equipped with a fabricated skin, wherein a portion of the back surface of the skin corresponding to the portion where the vehicle air bag is installed is formed with a break-scheduled line that is not so deep as to reach the surface of the skin and adapted to assume a substantially V-shaped groove ~~shape~~ when the skin is bent with its back surface convexed.

2. (Original) The vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to claim 1, wherein the back surface of the skin having the break-scheduled line is rendered substantially flat when the skin is flattened.

3. (Currently Amended) The vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein the break-scheduled line is constructed of one or more straight line(s) and a straight line or a curve vertically or diagonally intersecting the one or more straight line(s).

4. (Currently Amended) The vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, which meets the relationship of $t1 \times 0.3 < t2 < t1 \times 0.7$ when the skin takes $t1$ (mm) in thickness and the break-scheduled line takes $t2$ (mm) in depth.

5. (Currently Amended) The vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, further comprising a foam layer and a substrate accommodating the air bag on the back side of the skin.

6. (Currently Amended) The vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein the skin is a powder slush

molded product using a thermosetting resin or a thermoplastic resin as a molding material.

7. (Original) A method of producing a vehicle upholstery member having an air bag door equipped with a fabricated skin, comprising the following steps (A) to (C) in order:

(A) substantially flatly mounting the skin on a support base;

(B) forming a break-scheduled line that is not so deep as to reach the surface of the skin with a cutting blade; and

(C) measuring the depth of the break-scheduled line or the thickness of the remaining portion with the incision of the break-scheduled line opened.

8. (Original) The method of producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to claim 7, wherein the skin is aspirated from the back surface side and fixed on the support base.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to claim 7 ~~or claim 8~~, wherein, at the step (C), a protrusion arranged in the support base is moved up to a given height and pressed upward against the skin to thereby open the incision of the break-scheduled line.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 7 to 9~~ claim 7, wherein, at the step (B), the break-scheduled line is formed while detecting the altitude of the cutting blade.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 7 to 10~~ claim 7, further comprising the step of detecting the state of the cutting blade prior to the step (B).

12. (Currently Amended) The method of producing the vehicle upholstery

member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 7 to 11~~ claim 7, wherein, at the step (C), the depth of the break-scheduled line or the thickness of the remaining portion is measured with an optical film thickness measurement device.

13. (Original) A method of producing a vehicle upholstery member having an air bag door equipped with a fabricated skin, comprising the following steps (a) to (c):

(a) partially or entirely bending the skin with its back surface convexed;

(b) forming a break-scheduled line that is not so deep as to reach the surface of the skin with a cutting blade; and

(c) measuring the depth of the break-scheduled line or the thickness of the remaining portion with the incision of the break-scheduled line opened.

14. (Original) The method of producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to claim 13, wherein, at the step (a), the skin is mounted on a substrate and pressed with a protrusion arranged in the substrate for bending the skin with its back surface convexed.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to claim 13 ~~or claim 14~~, wherein, at the step (a), the protrusion is moved up and pressed upward against the skin.

16. (Original) A device for producing a vehicle upholstery member having an air bag door equipped with a fabricated skin, comprising:

a support base for substantially flatly mounting the skin thereon;

a cutting blade for forming a break-scheduled line in the skin; and

measuring means for measuring the depth of the break-scheduled line or the thickness of the remaining portion,

wherein the measuring means is used to measure the depth of the break-scheduled line or the thickness of the remaining portion, with the incision of the break-scheduled line opened.

17. (Original) The device for producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to claim 16, wherein the support base is equipped with a protrusion for upward pressing the skin, and the protrusion is moved up to a given height and pressed upward against the skin.

18. (Currently Amended) The device for producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to claim 16 ~~or claim 17~~, wherein the protrusion is constructed of one or more linear object(s) and a linear object or a curved object vertically or diagonally intersecting the one or more linear object(s).

19. (Currently Amended) The device for producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 18~~ claim 16, further comprising position-detecting means for detecting the altitude of the cutting blade.

20. (Currently Amended) The device for producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 19~~ claim 16, further comprising state-detecting means for detecting the state of the cutting blade.

21. (Currently Amended) The device for producing the vehicle upholstery member having the air bag door according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 20~~ claim 16, wherein the support base is provided with a suction portion for fixing the skin therein.